

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Colombia/Mexico

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Communist Expectations at Confederacion de Trabajadores de America Latina Congress, Mexico City

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1. The Partido Comunista de Colombia (PCC) met on 4 March 1948 to discuss other things, the triumph for the Party in the designation of Pedro J. Abella as delegate of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Colombia (CTC) to the forthcoming Confederacion de Trabajadores de America Latina (CTAL) in Mexico City. ILLEGIB
2. According to the Communists, the Congress will be of unprecedented importance, since vital decisions are to be taken relative to the orientation and direction of Latin American syndicalism. On the agenda is the role of Latin American labor in the event of an armed conflict between the capitalist powers and the Soviet Union. The most convenient and effective means of financing extensive labor movements will also be discussed. Experience has shown that during a strike or work stoppage insufficient funds have been the principal cause of failure.
3. According to Abella, the CTAL Congress will study ways and means of dispatching funds to certain labor organizations, circumventing the use of banking facilities, so that it will be impossible for bourgeois capitalist governments to determine the origin or disposition of such monies. In this regard, he cited the recent Colombian petroleum strike. At that time it was possible for the Venezuelan Federation of Labor, a Communist controlled organization, to send a sum of eleven thousand pesos to the CTC. This was accomplished without recourse to banking facilities through the efforts of Gustavo Machado Morales, a leading Venezuelan Communist. Machado's firm in Bogota, the Exito Films, through its manager, Maria Ida Lukas de Machado, was able to deliver the above amount in three payments without arousing any suspicions. In a similar fashion, it will be possible to finance the great Communist syndical movement throughout all of Latin America.\*
4. Abella also stated that if certain projects can be coordinated at the Congress, it will be possible to establish "a unified continental front against imperialism, capable of stopping all labor activity on the continent at a given moment and thus strike a death blow to imperialism".

25X1A Comment: This statement has not yet been proved, but among high ranking Communists it is understood to be a fact.

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